



LINCOLN CHAFEE

U.S. SENATOR

RHODE ISLAND

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CHAFEE ANNOUNCES GRANTS TO IMPROVE RHODE ISLAND AIRPORTS

WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Senator Lincoln Chafee today announced that the U.S. Department of Transportation has notified him that Rhode Island State Airports will receive almost \$1,000,000 to improve the quality and safety of the state's airports. The money will be used to improve apron lighting and perimeter fences in all state-owned airports, and upgrade the runway at the Westerly State Airport.

"I am glad that our state's airports will benefit from these grants through increased security and modernization," Senator Chafee said. "These funds will go a long way to ensure the safety of passengers and pilots who make use of our state-owned airports."

Of the nearly one million dollars to be distributed, \$465,000 will be dedicated to improving the apron lighting and perimeter fences at the Block Island, Westerly, Newport, and Quonset airports. The apron lighting improvements will increase visibility at the airfield to enhance safety of operations and the perimeter fencing will assist airport staff in protecting against inadvertent access. In addition, \$460,000 will be dedicated to improve the runway safety area at Westerly Airport in order for the runway to be fully compliant with Federal Aviation Administration regulations.

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